

Qualifications

- An interest in making a difference to improving the lives of persons with mental illness served by the publicly funded community mental health system
- Residents of King County

Time Commitment

- Monthly two hour meetings
- Serve on one committee of the board
- Allow adequate for time to review materials in advance of meetings
- Term of MHAB membership is three years from the point of King County Council confirmation

Application Process

- Contact [Bryan Baird](mailto:bryan.baird@kingcounty.gov) at bryan.baird@kingcounty.gov prior to attending the first meeting for additional information
- Must attend three consecutive MHAB meetings before submitting a written application
- [Download an application](http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/MentalHealth/Board.aspx) (<http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/MentalHealth/Board.aspx>).

Approval Process

- Approval by the Advisory Board
- Department Director reviews
- King County Executive appoints member
- Appear before Metropolitan King County Council for a brief interview and confirmation vote



King County Mental Health Advisory Board Information

Applications and requirements for membership are found at: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/MentalHealth/Board.aspx>

Board By-Laws: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/MentalHealth/~media/health/mentalHealth/Board/bylaws.aspx>

**Mental Health,
Chemical Abuse and
Dependency Services
Division**

... is looking for

**King County
Mental Health
Advisory Board
Members**

**... look inside for
membership
information**



King County

**Alternate formats
available
Call (206) 263-9000
or TTY 711**

Chinook Building
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 400
Seattle, WA 98104

Background

The King County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) was created by King County Council Ordinance #141, passed by the Council on September 12, 1969, and subsequently amended by Ordinance 10560 on September 23, 1992. The creation of the Board was brought about by legislative mandates identified in the Community Mental Health Services Act of 1967. The law authorizes the King County Executive to appoint a mental health advisory board to assist in the development of plans and policies for operation of the county mental health program.

Committees of the Board

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee meets monthly to provide updates and set the agenda for the full committee meeting.

Nominations Committee: This ad hoc committee recruits and nominates new board members.

Legislative Advocacy and Public Affairs Committee: This is a joint committee of the MHAB and the King County Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Administrative Board. Focus is on legislative advocacy with state and local elected representatives regarding the shared issues of concern in the areas of mental health and substance abuse funding and service delivery, and on public education on accessing services and stigma reduction. The community is welcome at this monthly committee meeting.

Quality Council: The Quality Council consists of members of the MHAB and members of the community. The Council focuses on quality of care issues, client satisfaction, access to care, and service outcomes.

Composition

- The Board is broadly representative of the demographic characteristics of the county and of the persons served by the public mental health program.
- Ethnic and cultural minority representation is actively sought.
- State law requires at least 51% of the board be comprised of mental health consumers or family members.
- Parents and recipients of services are particularly encouraged to apply. The Board strives to achieve broad county-wide and law enforcement representation.



- Length of term is three years, renewable once.

Meetings

The King County Mental Health Advisory Board meets on the second Tuesday of the month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at The Chinook Building, 401 5th Avenue, first floor, Seattle. [Dinner is Provided](#)

Functions

The Mental Health Advisory Board has structured its focus on access to care and quality of care issues:

- Review and evaluate mental health service needs in King County and provide policy recommendations and leadership.
- Monitor and ensure access to comprehensive and culturally sensitive mental health services for adults and children.
- Review reports from MHCADSD regarding service trends, outcomes, quality indicators, and consumer satisfaction and based on the results of those reviews, recommend further study or changes as necessary.
- Develop an annual legislative agenda for presentation to the Washington State Legislature, monitor legislative activities and advocate for funding and other supports for persons with mental illness.
- Identify relevant constituencies (consumer/advocate groups, community mental health providers, social service agencies, etc.) and develop meaningful relationships with them.
- Liaison with provider agencies.
- Provide education and information to residents of King County regarding mental illness and public mental health services.